GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:157
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2005
RESTORATION OF WATER BODIES
Barman Shri Hiten;Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has conducted any study in the water sector;

(b) if so, the findings thereof;

(c) whether the World Bank has agreed to lend $800 million a year to India for the next four years for reforms in water sector;

(d) if so, whether the Government proposes to implement a national project for repair, renovation and restoration of water bodies linked to agriculture; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith amount earmarked, State-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) O F THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.157 FOR ANSWER ON 14.3.2005

(a) & (b) The World Bank conducts studies from time to time on various issues. Recently, a report on "World Bank Country Assistance Strategy" has been prepared which projects the principles of World Bank engagement in water sector.

(c) No, Sir. However, the Country Director, World Bank during the National Workshop on "Challenges of Water Development and Management in India and Future Strategies" organized by this Ministry in January, 2005 has informed about enhancement of funding the water resources projects from present level of US $ 200 million per year to US $ 800 million per year by the World Bank for the next 4 years.

(d) & (e) A Pilot Scheme on "National Project for Repair Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies directly linked to Agriculture" has been approved by the Government of India with a Plan outlay of Rs.300 crore for the remaining period of Tenth Five Year Plan. However, no World Bank assistance is involved for the Pilot scheme.